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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)/Polish-Occupied Germany

DATE DISTR. 10 April 1951

SUBJECT Perlon Production

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1. During World War II the former I.G. Farben Corporation developed a technical process for the production of a fully synthetic fiber called Perlon. This production was based on an invention made early in 1938 and called Lactam process DRP 748 253.

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enterprises undertaking this production were in the area of the present Soviet Zone of Germany and Polish-occupied Germany.

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2. At war's end the production had already reached considerable proportion, and another substantial expansion was under way. The preliminary expansion program of the I.G. Farben Corporation alone provided for the production of a total of 10 tons of Perlon silk daily in the Berlin-Lichtenberg Plant together with the plant in Landsberg/Warthe (O 53/W 08) in Polish-occupied Germany; 15 tons of Perlon fiber daily in the Premnitz (M 53/Z 14) Plant; and 3 tons of Perlon bristles and wires daily in the Berlin-Lichtenberg Plant.
3. The installations of the Berlin-Lichtenberg Plant were completely dismantled. However, Perlon silk and Perlon fiber are manufactured in the Premnitz Plant, in the Landsberg/Warthe Plant, in the Wolfen (M 52/E 14) Film Factory, and in the Schwarza (M 51/H 92) Cellulose Wool Plant. *
4. The following deliveries of Perlon cord-silk (Cord Seide) were made by the Agfa Film Factory in Wolfen:

Time	Reparation and Exports to the U.S.S.R. in kg	Germany in kg
1 January to 30 June 1945 (goods produced during the war)	41,068	-
Third and fourth quarter of 1945	41	
1946	120	
1947	15,603	

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1948	28,078	-
1949	52,091	-
1 January to 30 June 1950	36,617	6,406
1 July to 30 September 1950	26,895	-
	200,513 **	6,406

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Comment: The administration of the Wolfen Plant was reorganized. The fertilizer and dye department was assigned to the SAG Kraska while the artificial fiber and film department was assigned to the SAG Fotoplenka. The Thuringian Cellulose Wool Plant in Schwarza started Perlon production early in 1949. The monthly production capacity was then about 3 tons. No reliable information is available on the total volume of the present Perlon production in the Soviet Zone of Germany.

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Comment: In the fall of 1950 additional contracts were made between the Soviet Zone of Germany and the U.S.S.R. for the export of 260 tons of Perlon cord and 220 tons of Perlon cellulose fiber to the U.S.S.R.

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